Tameside April '81 No. 21 15p

EYE

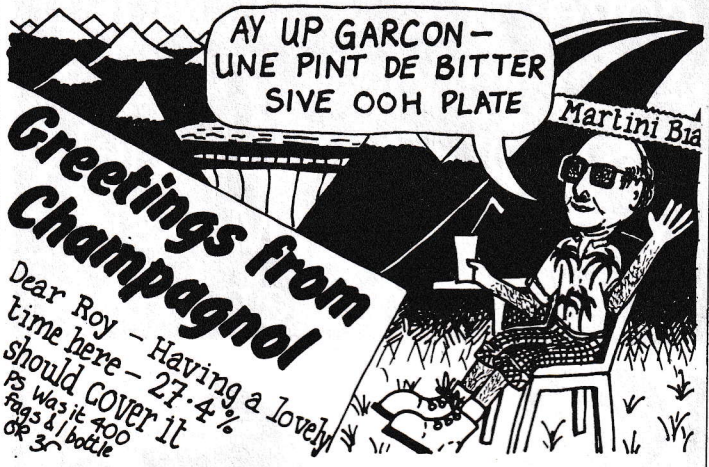
covering Droylsden
Longdendale Denton
Ashton Dukinfield
Stalybridge Mossley
Hyde & Audenshaw

IS THIS...

.....WHAT HAPPENS TO YOUR RATES AND RENTS?

We investigate COUNCIL CONTRACTS

NEWS


AY UP GARCON – UNE PINT DE BITTER SIVE OOH PLATE
Martini Bia
Greetings from Champagnol
Dear Roy – Having a lovely time here – 27.4°
should cover it
PS was it 400 frags à/bottle OR 3C

Did you know that the Mayor, GEORGE HATTON, has flown to CHAMPAGNOL in FRANCE - on the Rates?
On Wednesday 11th March our GEORGE flew off to Dukinfield's Twin Town to help them open their swish new Hydroelectric scheme. Duki's Twin, le bon CHAMPAGNOL, nestles prettily in the Jura Mountains, near to fashionable GENEVA.
But would it have been any cheaper to take the Mayoral Daimler? Gossiping Labour Party sources claim that GEORGE asked Officers of the Council how the Mayoral limousine plus Chauffeur were fixed to take him on his French jaunt/trip to foster international understanding. Oh, and if it was OK could he be accompanied by his wife, and to make full use of the car perhaps there'd be room for Cllr. GEORGE NEWTON,...and his wife too? When we rang GEORGE HATTON up about this, he confirmed that he had asked if it would have been cheaper to Go By Daimler.
In their turn Officers sought the opinion of the Leader, ROY OLDHAM, who turned the idea down flat.
Poor GEORGE: consider his dented civic pride as he trips down the aeroplane steps, when he could have had his Chauffeur opening the Daimler door.□

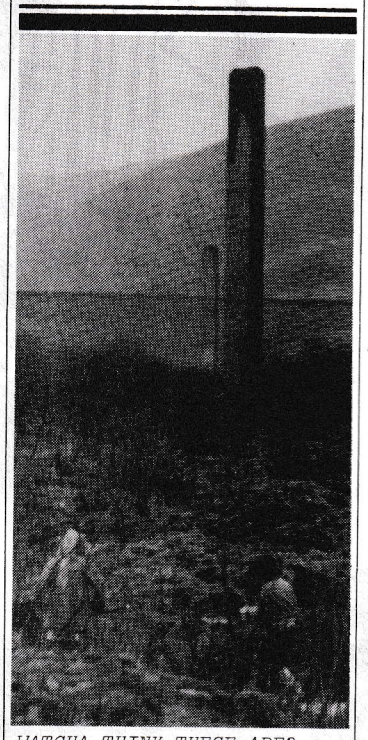
HEALTH

Depo Provera

In the January EYE we carried a story about the use of the dangerous contraceptive drug Depo Provera at Tameside General Hospital. The Community Health Council's Maternity and Children's Services Working Group were sufficiently concerned to ask MISS SEFTON the Hospitals Divisional Nursing officer in their Maternity Dept. to come and explain the matter to them.
MISS SEFTON told the group that allegations made by a 'somewhat disreputable' news sheet were completely untrue. She claimed that doctors always filled in patients' case sheets when they administered Depo. She went on to say that patients are entitled to refuse D.P. and that it was not 'uncommon for patients to fail to absorb or to forget' the information doctors gave them.
In effect, MISS SEFTON is calling the Glossop doctor who treated SHEILA PAPE a liar. She is also refuting the stories of the two women EYE interviewed who were injected with D.P. without being properly informed about it.
And EYE's article is vindicated by the C.H.C. itself, as they have proposed to the hospital that every mother wanting a Depo jab should be asked to sign a paper to the effect that she has been fully informed about why the jab is necessary and what the side-effects can be.
When we published our article we were informed that the hospital had stopped using D.P. We can only assume from this discussion that they have started using this dangerous drug again.□

CANNY

Signs of life on Werneth Low. The new 'Werneth Low Country Park Restaurant' is opening as we go to press.
The restaurant has emerged 'Phoenix-like out of the ashes of Tameside councils disasterous golf club venture.
EYE can now reveal who has kindly taken this White Elephant off the Council's hands.
The directors of the venture are BRIAN WHYTE of Simmondley, COLIN AND BARRY WAGSTAFF, IAN THOMASSON AND FAUSTO THOMASSON.
BRIAN WHYTE is a Director of ANDREWS BUILDERS (Staly) LTD who have done the conversion work, whilst COLIN BARRY and IAN are all directors of PARAGON JOINERY LTD. the firm that has done all the joinery work in the new restaurant.
FAUSTO is the Chef and ▷ lives in Rochdale.
It appears that the council has got its revenge on HARRY DEAN who several years ago sold the WINDY HARBOUR Course and Club House to them for the then astronomical £65,000.
The deal with the budding restaurant should net £17,000 a year for the council. EYE understands that council negotiators couldn't believe their luck when this deal was clinched, as the other tenders had not come within £11,000 of BRIAN WHYTE's offer. □



WATCHA THINK THESE ARE? Remains of an old factory? Ancient Greek columns? Nope. We are reliably informed that these two imposing edifices - which are to be found deep in the Brushes Valley next to the council estate - are MAN - HOLES for the planned CORPORATION TIP. They were built years ago- well before the current controversey- and they certainly give you a good idea of just how BIG an eyesore that tip would be.□

DEATH BIZ

Following our feature on THE DEATH BUSINESS in EYE 9 we had a call from a local lady undertaker who had some interesting things to say.
She pointed out that the undertakers who charge most for funerals are often the biggest ones, who pass on to their customers costs of their fancy illuminated shop fronts and large ads next to the REPORTER OBITUARIES.
Meanwhile the small undertakers who often offer a less expensive service and cant afford ads get squeezed out.
Our female funeral director was also pretty scathing about the money DOCTORS and MINISTERS make out of a death.
The two doctors who have to make a quick inspection of the body and fill in two forms get £27.50 between them, whilst the ministers who do the quick cremation services at DUKINFIELD CEMETARY can pick up £10.50 for a job that often takes less than 15 minutes. A rate of £40 per hour! □

Rotten

Wet rot in the roof of Hyde Sixth Form College (the ex Hyde Grammar School) is leading to speculation that the college might be moved in Sept. to bigger premises to cope with larger numbers of pupils.
Hyde Town Hall and premises in Enfield Rd.,Gee Cross are two of the whispers doing the rounds ! □

Copter Stop

Regular readers of EYE in MOSSLEY will be glad to hear that Tameside Legal Dept. have finally served Enforcement Orders on Mossley Aviator LEON HOWARD, whose company HELICO LTD. has been openly abusing its planning permission for a helipad and hangerage for ONE Chopper (EYE believes at least four machines are stored regularly) The Orders give HELICO two months to...

1. Stop selling choppers, spares and fuel.
2. Stop hiring & Charter.
3. Stop flying lessons.
4. Stop hangaring more than one chopper.
5. Stop non-HELICO machines using the pad.

Not surprisingly a HELICO spokesman said it is highly likely they will appeal to Secretary of State Heseltine, who coincidentally has recently circularised Planning Dept. telling them he intends taking a more sympathetic line on appeals of this kind.

*DUKINFIELD RESIDENTS TAKE NOTE

LEON HOWARD's pal MICHAEL WINTERBOTTOM of HYDE INDUSTRIAL HOLDINGS LTD. has applied for permission to land his extremely noisy Jet Ranger (G HYDE) at the companies GLOBE WORKS H.Q. □

Hassled

After selling thr weekly newspaper Socialist Worker every Saturday in Hyde market place and Ashton precinct for years, the paper sellers are now being harrassed off their pitches.

At Hyde the aggro is coming from a market official wanting 'rent' yet the sellers claim they make no personal financial gain out of their sales.

At Ashton, the trouble ▷ seems to be due to a bee in the bonnet of one particular policeman.

Yet the sellers are breaking no law- either in their paper, or by selling it. Why all this attention all of a sudden ? □

Ads loss Scare

Youve probably noticed that THE REPORTER has started running high-powered advertising spreads devoted to single products. On 13th Feb. it was WEDDING DRESSES a week later it was HOME ENTERTAINMENT PRODUCTS.

What next? Dog collars? Lavatory brushes?

Whatever it is you can be fairly sure that there are two good reasons for this sudden spurt of energy by the REPORTER ad-men and women.

Firstly, crippling competition for local ads from THE ADVERTISER. Secondly, pressure from UNITED NEWSPAPERS - the REPORTERS new owners - for some rapid improvement in the papers chronically declining profitability. □

MOTTRAM HOMES LTD the developers and estate agents jointly owned by McAPLINES and P.E.JONES of ALDERLEY EDGE, have been trying to flog off several brand spanking new posh houses at the top of MOTTRAM RD, Stalybridge for the last 18 months, and they just can not get rid of them, for love or money.

The three which appear most regularly in MOTTRAM HOMES ads are the HOLLINGWORTH, the PENRITH and DEVON COTTAGE which are currently on offer at £38,750, £44,500, and £27, 950 respectively.

Buy now (or in a years time) while stocks last! □

Tech Govs

The strain of running Tameside Tech is beginning to tell on the Board of Governors.

Some students and lecturers wished to book a professional theatre group "Power Plays" by the London Based Inter-Action group.

The Principal, Mr. JONES took fright-presumably because the play was about a controversial issue, Nuclear Power. He asked Governors to decide if the theatre group should be allowed in the college hall.

And, this weighty matter was duly discussed at a Governors meeting.

In all seriousness, the play did go on to a full house, but there are no signs of revolution yet. □

Flowers

If you're like us, and regularly scan the funeral reports in THE REPORTER you've probably noticed that the phrase 'Flowers from H.T. Greenwoods Ltd" occurs fairly frequently.

We noticed it most recently at the funeral of PETER GREENHOUGH the Audenshaw Publican, and former MAYOR of Tameside.

H.T. GREENWOODS are TAMESIDE's biggest moneylenders.

Now why would they be sending flowers to the funerals of prominent local people? □

Halls-Up!

Anyone who read a story in last issues EYE based on an item in the MANCHESTER EVENING NEWS will be forgiven for thinking that MANCHESTER CITY's new Manager JOHN BOND stayed for a time at MOTTRAM OLD HALL with local millionaire DEREK HARTLE.

Well, BOND did stay at MOTTRAM OLD HALL, but not in Tameside! He stayed at MOTTRAM OLD HALL HOTEL in South Manchester.

Which, if nothing else, will teach us not to believe everything we read in the newspapers. □

PET OF THE MONTH

This month's Birdie (Geddit?) is on a par (Geddit Geddit?) with the best!

He's swinging golf club captain and local solicitor MICHAEL JOHN WOOD who can come and solicit for us anytime he wants - because we think he's a hole-in-one!

Want to inspect MIKE's handicap a bit closer... read on.....

THIS MONTHS PET HAS PLAYED BIT PARTS IN A NUMBER OF PREVIOUS EYE STORIES BUT AFTER HIS RECENT ELECTION TO THE CAPTAINSHIP OF THE PRESTIGIOUS ASHTON GOLF CLUB. WE DECIDED TO PUT HIM UNDER THE MICROSCOPE..

MICHAEL JOHN WOOD is part of the WOOD family dynasty of local solicitors, magistrates, and Freemasons and businessmen.

The family firm of Ashton

Cont. on page 11

HEALTH

ELSIE

RELATIVES OF AN OLD LADY WHO DIED RECENTLY AT TAMESIDE HOSPITAL RANG US UP TO COMPLAIN ABOUT A DISTURBING SERIES OF INCIDENTS DURING HER STAY THERE.

On Saturday night whilst the relatives were sitting quietly with Elsie*, their 80 year old mother, a stout woman wearing hornrimmed glasses burst in, stood at the end of Elsie's bed and started praying loudly.
Elsie's relatives quickly ushered her out.
When they complained nursing staff said 'Oh that was the eccentric hospital visitor'.
Later, with phones ringing, doors banging and nurses shouting across the ward to each other Elsie didn't get much peace.
On Sunday the T.V. and radio were so loud that when Elsie's local vicar visited he asked 'Do they really need to have that noise on?'
By Sunday evening Elsie was in a very weak state yet the nursing staff changed her bed 5 times in 24 hours despite the fact that she was not incontinent.

Late Sunday evening Elsie was having difficulty breathing so the nurses put an oxygen mask on her face. But, they gave no warning of this to Elsie's relatives or reassurance to Elsie, who suddenly found herself with a strange plastic mask on her face.
Elsie died on Monday morning.
When we spoke to them, Elsies relatives recognised that Tameside hospital is under-staffed and hard-pressed and have nothing but praise for the *MEDICAL* attention given to her.

But the lack of concern for their mothers personal needs and feelings really upset them.
And their grief was not in any way alleviated by this DHSS letter which arrived a week after Elsie died.

DHSS

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SECURITY
Beech House, Clarendon Street, Hyde, Cheshire SK14 2LP

In any reply please quote 8110/36054

2-3-~~19~~ 81

Dear Sir or Madam

Your *supplementary benefit/retirement pension has to be *increased/reduced because at present you are in hospital.

*Elsie 's real name has been withheld at her family's request.

PROPERTY

Community minded Mr B.

In the same week that Tameside building and Droylsden nightclub owner ROLAND BARDSLEY was handing over a £500 cheque to Droylsden's struggling football club he was sending out curt quit-notices to the children and adults who tenant horses in the stables behind CARRIAGES NIGHT CLUB, and getting ready to fight the public enquiry called for by Droylsden residents who are objecting to his proposed MOTEL at CARRIAGES.
We are certain that Mr. BARDSLEY's well-publicised £500 donation was NOT clever P.R. but an act of selfless generosity.
ROLANDS MOTEL plan, and the anger of local residents has been on the boil ever since he heard that the new MANCHESTER RING ROAD would be passing close by CARRIAGES.

His application for MOTEL planning permission was passed by Tameside officers but rejected by Socialists hostile to Tory ROLAND's activities. A public enquiry was called and local residents started organising against him.
Involved with ROLAND in the Motel venture is THE ESTATE OF MRS. BISSELL, for MRS. BISSELL's Estate this latest venture is only one in a series of attempts to turn local greenbelt into housing or industrial developments.
MRS. BISSELL's Estate and ROLAND BARDSLEY are both represented by BERNARD HIGGINBOTTOM the Ashton ROTARIAN and a partner in CORDINGLEYS the local solicitors, estate agents and valuers. □

Night Club
Restaurant
Squash Courts
Harness Racing
Show Jumping

CARRIAGES

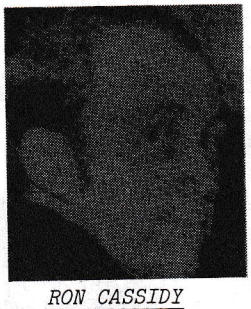
NOTICE TO QUIT
ALL STABLES MUST BE VACATED BY MONDAY 23 FEBRUARY 1981.
ON THIS DATE ALL THE STABLE DOORS WILL BE TAKEN OFF AND REMOVED.
R. BARDSLEY
CHAIRMAN

Carriages to the rescue

MR Roland Bardsley, owner of Carriages, has joined in the fight to save Droylsden FC. On Wednesday he presented a cheque for £500 to director Mr Ivan James. He commented: "D... Foot... ...ub must not be allowed to ... The

SUFFER LITTLE CHILDREN

If you live in Mossley and you want your child to attend a state primary school you have a problem. Four out of the five primary schools in Mossley are Church schools (and they're not quite the same thing as State schools).
When Tameside banned Corporal punishment ERIC PILKINGTON, Secretary of the Head Teacher's Association wrote to church-run schools advising them to carry on whacking. This advice was gleefully received by at least one Lady Governor of Milton St.John's C of E Primary who would welcome an increase in spanking if discipline improved as a result.
Another interesting difference between Church and State schools is that local vicars, with no teaching qualifications, are allowed to take classes in Church schools and to vet applicants for teaching posts. The REV.RON CASSIDY, Vicar of St.Johns and ex-officio governor



RON CASSIDY

of Milton St. Johns Primary says that a sensible education authority should try to appoint staff sympathetic to the work of the local church, and some vicars insist on communicant C of E teachers only.
If you live in Mossley and want to keep your child out of the Clergy's clutches you should follow the example of Micklehurst vicar DEREK BOOTH, Governor of All Saint Primary, whose faith in the school is such that he sends Booth Minor to school in Stalybridge. □

TAMESIDE'S POSH STREETS

EVER WALKED PAST A STREET OF LUXURIOUS HOUSES AND WONDERED WHO LIVES THERE? WELL, THIS IS THE FEATURE THAT TELLS YOU. . .

BOWLACRE ROAD AND THE DINGLE, WERNETH, HYDE, boast some of the most desirable houses in TAMESIDE, and lie in the heartland of the borough's CONSERVATISM.

If Socialist Council leader ROY OLDHAM looks to council estates for his core votes at elections, Tory boss COLIN GRANTHAM looks for HIS stalwart support from the inhabitants of streets like.....

Bowlacre Rd.

On Bowlacre Rd. lives JOHN DRIVER, a director of IMI RANGE, STALYBRIDGE the big copper cylinder manufacturer.

Nos. 2 & 3: BOWLACRE RD. and THE DINGLE

Next door to JOHN live CLARENCE and BETSY MESCHIA. CLARENCE MESCHIA was president of the Hyde Rotary in 1979 and his ICE-CREAM VANS are a familiar local sight.
The business was set up by CLARENCE's Italian father after his release from internment during the war. Trade peaked in the early seventies when WALLS closed down their ice cream factory in Hyde and gave MESCHIAS their work. Recently business has been bad (MESCHIAS made a loss of £8,510 in 1979) and their old rivals SUSCAs have taken over the PINE STREET premises.
Two doors up from the MESCHIAS lives ERNEST BYLE. ERNEST runs the BYLE HOME MAKER CENTRE in Hyde and business for him has been good. He turned over £538,712 in 1980 and paid himself and his youngest son JOHN CHRISTOPHER over £37,000 in Directors' salaries. All of which is a long way from ERNEST'S first job which was knocking early-morning blackjacks off the bread at a local bakers.
The decorating business he set up with his wife MARIAN flourished.
After the war ERNEST was a staunch socialist.
He became secretary of the Hyde Labour party, a Labour councillor and a Mayor of Hyde.
But as he got richer his politics took a sharp right turn and by the 1950's he was on the council as a Tory.
Next door to the BYLES live the GOLDTHORPES,

WILLIAM GOLDTHORPE is a top gynaecologist at Tameside hospital, who got himself into trouble with anti abortionists a year or so ago when he pioneered suction abortions in the area. Two doors up from WILLIAM GOLDTHORPE live the SMITHS.

JOHN ALBERT SMITH owns 5,000 shares in the family Knackers Yard - the infamous SMITH BROS LTD. whose factory regularly covers most of HYDE in the indescribably awful "Kingston" stink.

The Dingles

.....is a short row of seven large houses linking BOWLACRE RD. with WEST PARK.

JOHN CHRISTOPHER BYLE, the youngest son of BOWLACRE's ERNEST BYLE, lives there with his wife JUDITH, who is a fellow Director of the BYLE HOMEMAKER CENTRE in HYDE. Just like his Dad, JOHN is a former Tory Councillor and happens to live next door to a current TAMESIDE Tory Councillor - ERIC CLARKE.

ERIC works for the Gas Board is a member of TAMESIDE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, and a former Mayor of TAMESIDE ('76 - '77).

FOLLOW UP

MUDD!

TAKE A STROLL ROUND THE PEACEFUL "MUDD" AREA OF MOTTRAM COUNTRYSIDE, STOP AND LISTEN!
THAT GENTLE RUSTLING YOU HEAR ISN'T WIND IN THE TREES IT'S THE SOUND OF POUND NOTES CHANGING HANDS.

Regular readers will recall our last visit to THE MUDD (Nov.'80 - An Everyday Story of countryfolk) and the activities of local farmer-businessman DEREK TERENCE ELLIOT. Since then Mr. Elliot's un-planned eye-sore gaggle of out - sheds, rubbish and JCB's on the fields near PARSONAGE FARM has grown. Drains have been dropped, ROLAND BARDSLEYS builders have been in laying concrete foundations and according to local MP TOM PENDRY, DEREK ELLIOT has refused to meet a posse of neighbours and local councillors complaining about his totally unauthorised development. Meanwhile, the bright red wagons and vans from his STALYBRIDGE Haulage business JUNCTION TRANSPORT are often to be seen on the site, causing local residents to wonder whether DEREK ELLIOT is running part of the business from there and if so whether he's got the necessary planning permission for it.

Meanwhile, just across the road from DEREK's green acreage of shanties, sheds and draining pools, is PARSONAGE FARM and its rapidly shrinking acreage. PARSONAGE FARM House is being sold yet again. It's been sold at least three times in the last decade and each time not only produces a nice profit for the seller but also loses a little more of its accompanying acreage. First purchaser in recent years was DEREK ELLIOT himself in the early '70's. He paid £6,000 and got all the land around it, which includes the fields he is now erecting a ghost town on.

A year or so later DEREK sold the farm, less this land, for £60,000 to H. JACK SMITH who is a leading light in RYDER & DUTTONS local surveyors and valuers.
Now H.JACK SMITH is selling the farm, for £90,000, but he's keeping the two barns for himself and converting one of them to a residence.
Would-be buyers of the old farmhouse would do well to read the small print on RYDER & DUTTONS propoganda. H.JACK SMITH has introduced a ground rent of £40 which didn't exist before.
He has first option to repurchase should the new buyer wish to sell.

He retains right of access to his barns along the farmhouse path and not only shares use of the Farmhouse septic tank, but requires the new Farmhouse owner to pay for the privilege of allowing him, JACK, to share it! And, to pay for any necessary expansion of the septic tank and sewage system!

MILLIONS OF POUNDS WORTH OF CONTRACTS
HOW DOES THE COUNCIL SAFEGUARD AGAIN

Local Governm

The High Stakes

TAMESIDE contracts are BIG business.
The council buys everything from school YOGHURT and FISH FINGERS to OLD PEOPLE's HOMES and NEW CIVIC CENTRES from local-and not so local-businessmen. It's a trading operation with a multi-million pound turnover every year, with big profits for successful contractors and a lot of power for a small number of councillors and officials.
And its all financed from your rents, rates and taxes.
In order to write this article we looked at 250 large contracts handed out between 1978 and 1980. This period covered the last year of COLIN GRANTHAM's Conservative council and the first one of the current Labour council.
We read the account of over 50 companies who got Tameside contracts.
We checked the many social and business connections between councillors, officials and local businessmen.
We found nothing that was corrupt...but plenty that was interesting..... □

The Contractors

There are hundreds of Tameside contractors ranging from the very big to the very small. We only have space to focus on a few....

FEARNLEY AND SONS LTD.of SALFORD regularly pick up Tameside contracts worth hundreds of thousands of pounds.
But they hit the headlines a year or so ago when the swimming pool they were responsible for at COPLEY RECREATION CENTRE was discovered to have leaks and faulty tiles.
Despite this FEARNELY have since obtained Tameside contracts worth hundreds of thousands of pounds. In May '78 Councillor ALAN FEARN Social Service Committee gave them the £332,000 contract for building a new old peoples home. A couple of months later they got a £289,000 contract for a new primary school at Clarendon St. Dukinfield.
By May '80 they had picked up five more contracts worth well over £100,000.

Other companies have similarly lucrative records ARTHUR NEWTON and SON LTD. a GLOSSOP building firm run by BRIAN and JONQUIL NEWTON got a series of large contracts for improving old property from Sept. '78 through to Sept.'79. According to the figures given in council minutes the six contracts involved a total turnover of well over £500,000.

Other regular Tameside Contractors include PICKUP AND BRADBURY LTD. who got £200,000 worth of contracts in the period we covered. This firm is based in Stockport but run by DEREK OLDHAM of THE GRANGE,HYDE.

ERIC & MARGARET TOPPING of Harrison Drive, WOODLEY and WILLIAM CHARLES LORAINE of Delph.

PICKUP & BRADBURY are still receiving substantial Tameside contracts. As are TANDOWN CONSTRUCTION LTD. of Mossley who got frequent and large contracts both from COLIN GRANTHAMs Tory Council and the present Labour one. TANDOWN seem to make a speciality of small contracts for bricking up old Tameside slums, as well as more lucrative repair jobs on dilapidated council estates.
The company is owned by two Mossley businessmen GEORGE TANSEY and JOHN STUART DOWNS JOHN STUART DOWNS was a Tory councillor in Mossley during the early seventies.
His other business interests include THE PALACE CINEMA in Stalybridge and the MOSSLEY EMPIRE BINGO HALL which he is trying to sell off for industrial development.
TANDOWN are currently negotiating to do improvements on one of the Mossley Conservative clubs.

Conne

The most controversial ar of local government contr ing is the perfectly lega and respectable conne io between COUNCILLORS, FI IALS, and LOCAL BUSINESSM who sometimes have common business interests, somet live close to each other, or drink in the same pubs or belong to mutual-aid organisations like the se retive FREEMASONS.

For example, MR. HANKES t Chief Officer at Estates Valuation is a MASON, so HARRY HOULDSWORTH at Envi onmental Health. HARRY's also in the local ROTARY which necessarily involve him in many social gather ings of local businessmen and professions.
The Most frequent links are between local busines men and the local Conserv ive party. This is inevi able, since businessmen often form the backbo of the parties and TAMES is no exception.
COLIN GRANTHAM the leade of Tameside Tory Group i council makes his money broking businesses.

EYE back issues
30p each or ten for £2
Send money with order to
TAMESIDE EYE
P.O. BOX 30
HYDE
CHESHIRE
SK 14 3JL

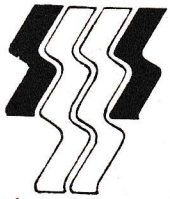
POST & PACKING INCLUDED
CASH WITH ORDER:
ALL CHEQUES/POSTAL ORDERS SHOULD BE MADE OUT TO " TAMESIDE EYE "

ARE HANDED OUT EVERY YEAR BY TAMESIDE.
T CORRUPTION? EYE PROBES...

ent Contracts

ctions

Social and business connections with local commerce are essential to his job. According to the voluntary register of councillors interest he also owns shares in a local firm.
Councillor LILLEY Conservative Councillor for a Stalybridge Ward owns shares in REDLANDS building firm, and is a member of the LONGDENDALE HOUSING SOCIETY, with WILLIAM EDWARD PEARCE the local J.P., builder and Rotarian. Closely connected to this society are other leading Tory businessmen. PHILIP DAWSON the former Stalybridge Councillor and estate agent represents the society. ROLAND BARDSLEY the builder who is currently doing several large contracts for Tameside has done work for the society and so on.
Reading a list of former CONSERVATIVE COUNCILLORS can be like scanning Who's Who of Tameside Business. DEREK HARTLE the former Machine Tool millionaire and property developer used to sit on the old Stalybridge council alongside PHILIP DAWSON and SAM HALL who, at the time, was working for W.J. SIMMS SON AND COOKE LTD. who in turn were working on several Corporation Building Contracts.
In fact, when HARTLE, DAWSON & HALL sat on the Town Planning and Finance Committees in Stalybridge during the 1960's their connections with local business & property development were so extensive and they were so scrupulous about declaring those connections that they would have been in and out of the Council chamber like yo yo's if other councillors hadn't agreed to let them stay and listen but not vote.



Connections between Labour Councillors and outside business are not so close or so frequent.

But they DO exist.

JIM EASON, Magistrate and Labour councillor is a Painter and Decorator who has applied for Tameside improvement grants to help finance the renovation of old houses he has worked on.

There are plenty of social contacts between some Labour councillors, Tory businessmen and Tameside officials.

ROLAND BARDSLEY's regular Christmas Goodwill parties at Carriages are well attended. Cheap drink and a good time is difficult to turn down, especially when there's absolutely nothing illegal or immoral about it.

There is, of course, no suggestion in this article of anything untoward about the connections we have drawn attention to. We point them out simply to show how essential it is to have local councillors who can ignore their own personal or financial interests, and also, failing this, to have an adequate system of safeguard against the occasional lapse.□

NO PUB REVIEW THIS MONTH, AS OUR INTREPID REVIEWER IS TAKING A BREAK.

The safeguards

There are pages of council rules -known as 'standing orders'-which control the process of awarding council contracts.
*Big council contracts have got to be publicly advertised.
* Companies who want the job have to send in their bid in plain sealed envelopes in time for a specific deadline.
These envelopes are then opened in the presence of a councillor, and at least two officials.
*The bids then go before a meeting of the relevant council committee. At this meeting any councillors who have financial connections with any of the companies have, by law, to declare their interest and cannot speak or vote on the matter
After the discussion the company who puts in the lowest tender USUALLY gets the job.
It's a sensible system, but it's not water-tight. There are lots of quite justifiable short cuts.
*Often councils only advertise for contractors to go on to a closed list of officially recognised tenderers
So the actual jobs are then restricted to only the companies on this list.
*Contracts worth anything up to £2,000 can be handed out by any Tameside CHIEF OFFICER on his or her own initiative.
*When the contract is worth more than £2,000 but less than £10,000 the CHIEF OFFICER only needs to consult with the councillor who is CHAIRMAN of the relevant committee.
*Even the BIG contracts often slip quite legitimately through the net.

For example, when a job is urgent a big contract can be handed out by a committee chairman on his own or in consultation with one or two other councillors.
This happens frequently,

There isn't necessarily anything wrong or suspicious about all this.
Without short cuts the whole process would be ridiculously cumbersome and nothing would get done.
But the short cuts DO put a lot of power and money into the hands of a very few councillors and officials. And when that happens corruption is always a danger.
So, in practice, the only REAL safeguard against it is the proven integrity of those councillors and officials, and constant watchfullness by voters and the local press.□

Open Your EYE Each Month

S WORTH OF CONTRACTS ARE HANDED OUT EVERY Y
NCIL SAFEGUARD AGAINST CORRUPTION? EYE PRO

Government Cont

Connections

The most controversial area of local government contracting is the perfectly legal and respectable connection between COUNCILLORS, OFFICIALS, and LOCAL BUSINESSMEN who sometimes have common business interests, sometimes live close to each other, or drink in the same pubs, or belong to mutual-aid organisations like the secretive FREEMASONS.

For example, MR. HANKES the Chief Officer at Estates & Valuation is a MASON, so is HARRY HOULDSWORTH at Environmental Health. HARRY's also in the local ROTARY which necessarily involves him in many social gatherings of local businessmen and professions.

The Most frequent links are between local businessmen and the local Conservative party. This is inevitable, since businessmen often form the backbone of the parties and TAMESIDE is no exception.

COLIN GRANTHAM the leader of Tameside Tory Group in council makes his money broking businesses.

ERIC & MARGARET TOPPING of Harrison Drive, WOODLEY and WILLIAM CHARLES LORAINE of Delph.

PICKUP & BRADBURY are still receiving substantial Tameside contracts. As are TANDOWN CONSTRUCTION LTD. of Mossley who got frequent and large contracts both from COLIN GRANTHAMs Tory Council and the present Labour one. TANDOWN seem to make a speciality of small contracts for bricking up old Tameside slums, as well as more lucrative repair jobs on dilapidated council estates.

The company is owned by two Mossley businessmen GEORGE TANSEY and JOHN STUART DOWNS JOHN STUART DOWNS was a Tory councillor in Mossley during the early seventies.

His other business interests include THE PALACE CINEMA in Stalybridge and the MOSSLEY EMPIRE BINGO HALL which he is trying to sell off for industrial development.

TANDOWN are currently negotiating to do improvements on one of the Mossley Conservative clubs.

Social and business connections with local commerce are essential to his job. According to the voluntary register of councillors interest he also owns shares in a local firm.

Councillor LILLEY Conservative Councillor for a Stalybridge Ward owns shares in REDLANDS building firm, and is a member of the LONGDENDALE HOUSING SOCIETY, with WILLIAM EDWARD PEARCE the local J.P., builder and Rotarian. Closely connected to this society are other leading Tory businessmen.

PHILIP DAWSON the former Stalybridge Councillor and estate agent represents the society. ROLAND BARDSLEY the builder who is currently doing several large contracts for Tameside has done work for the society and so on.

Reading a list of former CONSERVATIVE COUNCILLORS can be like scanning Who's Who of Tameside Business.

DEREK HARTLE the former Machine Tool millionaire and property developer used to sit on the old Stalybridge council alongside PHILIP DAWSON and SAM HALL who, at the time, was working for W.J. SIMMS SON AND COOKE LTD. who in turn were working on several Corporation Building Contracts.

In fact, when HARTLE, DAWSON & HALL sat on the Town Planning and Finance Committees in Stalybridge during the 1960's their connections with local business & property development were so extensive and they were so scrupulous about declaring those connections that they would have been in and out of the Council chamber like yo yo's if other councillors hadn't agreed to let them stay and listen but not vote.

Connections between Labour Councillors and outside business are not so close or so frequent.

But they DO exist.

JIM EASON, Magistrate and Labour councillor is a Painter and Decorator who has applied for Tameside improvement grants to help finance the renovation of old houses he has worked on.

There are plenty of social contacts between some Labour councillors, Tory businessmen and Tameside officials.

ROLAND BARDSLEY's regular Christmas Goodwill parties at Carriages are well attended. Cheap drink and a good time is difficult to turn down, especially when there's absolutely nothing illegal or immoral about it.

There is, of course, no suggestion in this article of anything untoward about the connections we have drawn attention to. We point them out simply to show how essential it is to have local councillors who can ignore their own personal or financial interests, and also, failing this, to have an adequate system of safeguard against the occasional lapse.□

NO PUB REVIEW THIS MONTH, AS OUR INTREPID REVIEWER IS TAKING A BREAK.

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EYE back issues

30p each or ten for £2

Send money with order to
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P.O. BOX 30
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CHESHIRE
SK 14 3JL

POST & PACKING INCLUDED
CASH WITH ORDER:
ALL CHEQUES/POSTAL ORDERS SHOULD BE MADE OUT TO " TAMESIDE EYE ".

INDUSTRY

KAY-METZELER

WORKERS AT KAYMETZELER LTD on Park Road, asked us for information on company profits. We got that information, discussed it with them, and put together this story.....

The 150 Kay Metzeler workers make seat foam for major car manufacturers including British Leyland.
The men who cut up the foam get £75 a week before tax, the women who stick it together again get two or three pounds less.
After recent pay negotiations their union accepted a 6% pay rise, it was well below current inflation rates, but the METZELER Management said they could afford no more.
In fact, METZELER have made substantial profits up to 1980.
In '78 they made £563,826 before tax. And, this went up to £875,158 in 1979.
In addition over a million pounds of profit was retained in company accounts.
Also, KAY METZELER Directors paid themselves over £80,000 in 1979 and the highest paid Director (Probably JAMES LAMBIE of Metbridge Lane, Prestbury) got £31,000 that year, about £600 a week.
Without a doubt the living standards of the METZELER workers will fall this year.
This situation will not be helped by changes made by METZELER Management in the old productivity bonus scheme.
Until recently, in a good month workers could make anything up to £80 bonus for high productivity. It was all based on sales.
If the company's sales went up so did the workers bonus.
Now the bonus is to be based on profit sharing.
But profit figures, unlike sales, can easily be manipulated.
Usually, Directors pay, shareholders dividend and other variable costs all have to be taken out before profit is measured.
So if dividends and directors pay goes up profits go down and so does the workers bonus.
The new bonus scheme will make it easier for management to pay less for high productivity. It also means that workers at highly profitable DUKINFIELD factory will be subsidising the bonuses of less profitable METZELER factories elsewhere.

A few months ago METZELER made a lot of redundancies. Reason? Poor trade? Since then trade has picked up but none of the redundant workers have been taken back on instead the reduced workforce is working extra overtime. Women on evening night shift are being asked to do two extra hours in the morning. In the short-term, this means more money for the remaining METZELER workers, but it involves a long-term loss of jobs. The management clearly prefer to pay overtime to paying new workers because they can drop overtime at no extra cost to themselves, but laying off workers costs money.

EYE INFORMATION SERVICE

WE CAN PROVIDE DETAILS OF LOCAL COMPANY ACCOUNTS, PROFITS, DIVIDENDS and DIRECTOR'S SALARIES, plus BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON MANY LOCAL ISSUES.

TEL.MOSSLEY 6533
or **366 0382**
PO BOX 30 HYDE, CHES.

Ring us and we'll find out.

TOOTAL

The major fire at the NEWTON BANK PRINT WORKS in HYDE town centre last month is the second at that factory in less than 18 months.
The first happened in March 1979.
In between these two fires the NEWTON BANK WORKS has been up before the Sth Tameside Magistrates for discharging untreated effluent into the sewage system.
NEWTON BANK PRINTWORKS is a subsidiary of TOOTALS which is still partly owned by SIR GEORGE KENYON, the Chairman of the Sth.Tameside Magistrates and the Borough's leading philanthropist.

STERLING

Workers at STERLING MOULDINGS Queen and Albion Mills are now on a four day week and are only getting 75% of their normal wage. This is made up of the 50% 'short time working subsidy' provided by central Govt., topped up by 25% from STERLING.
The threat of large-scale redundancies hangs over the firm, yet they are still intending going ahead with the move to Whitelands Mill in the summer.

BENNETT BROS

STANLEY BENNETT , Director of BENNETT BROS.(ASHTON)LTD sacked 36 out of his 49 strong workforce on11th Feb This dismissal news comes on the heels of their successful fight for reinstatement, reported in previous issues of the EYE.
The bitter pill of redundancy was made doubly hard to swallow when BENNETT broke contract by failing to give 30 days agreed notice and by not consulting with the Unions (AUEW, Boilermakers) properly.
BENNETT claimed that his bank had forced him to make the drastic cuts in the workforce, but so far his promises of getting redundancy pay and cash in lieu of notice have been slow to arrive.
Meanwhile, Ashton dole office are making difficulties over some of the redundant workers' claims.

STINKS AND BANGS

THE SMELLIEST, NOISIEST SPOTS IN TAMESIDE REVEALED.

Yet again, CHEMSTAR of Staly bridge and SENIOR SERVICE & SMITH BROS of Hyde are the Chief polluters of Tameside's sweet air.
SENIOR SERVICE are making excuses about some new plant they might be getting (I'm expecting a postal order from Australia at the end of the week?)
At CHEMSTAR, investigations continue. SMITH BROS, despite visits from pollution squad with clothes pegs on noses, continue merrily to fill the atmosphere with awful odours.
On the noise scene. NEWTON TOOLS of Ashton, MILLEND PRECISION ENGINEERING of Dukinfield and DOLANS of Stalybridge have been keeping their neighbours awake at night.
And an alien element has entered the Tameside pollution stakes - black spots from an 'unknown source' have afflicted a car in Newton.
Invaders from outer space?

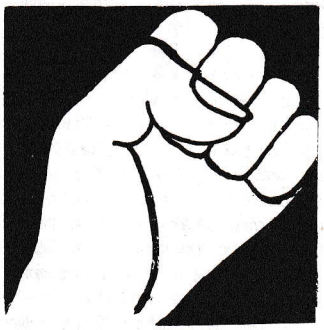
SUICIDE VANS

Fuel spill

A Reporter newspaper van driven by Mr John Archer, 25, of Garden Street, Audenshaw, had its petrol fuel tank ruptured when it ran over a previously demolished roadworks sign in the middle of the road at Dinting Vale, on Friday. Glossop firemen were called out to swill away the fuel.

The news item in our illustration appeared in a recent REPORTER. We understand that MR. JOHN ARCHER is a member of the REPORTER's crack, S-A-S style squad of elite Kamikaze van drivers who are sworn to sacrifice themselves and their vehicles in THE REPORTER'S endless search for non-events to pad out their sagging columns.

YOUR RIGHTS



Supplementary Benefit (S.B.) is designed to ensure that everyone has enough income to live on. It is calculated from:-

(A) Needs of individual claimant and dependents.

(B) Housing Requirements - rent (or mortgage interest) and rates

(C) Additional Requirements for extra heating, special diet, blindnessetc.

(D) Resources-i.e. child benefit, income from earnings or interest. Capital savings or investments over £2,000 completely disqualify from S.B.

S.B. - a+b+c-d

S.B. Claimants are also entitled to

Single payments for costs of moving home, furniture and some household items and in some cases clothing and shoes.

Free medical, dental and optical care and prescriptions.

Free School Meals for children, also uniform grants.

Free legal aid at most solicitors.

You are entitled to have a written explanation from the Social Security Dept. for.

1. The way your benefit has been worked out.
2. The reasons for refusing extra benefit or single payments.

Make sure you ask for these. If you are not satisfied you can appeal within 14 days.

Supplementary Benefit Scale Rates

	Short Term	Long Term
HOUSEHOLDER		
Single Person	£21.30	£27.15
Couple	£34.60	£43.45
PLUS RENT		
Deductions for non-dependants	£2.15 (SB) or £4.60	
NON-HOUSEHOLDER		
Single Person aged 16-17*	£13.10	£16.65
Single Person over 18	£17.05	£21.70
Couple	£34.60	£43.45
PLUS RENT ADDITION OF	£2.15	£2.15
CHILDREN		
Aged under 11 £7.30	aged 11-15	£10.90
	16-17	£13.10
	18+	£17.05
HOSPITAL POCKET MONEY RATE	£5.45	

SINGLE PARENTS aged 16-17 will be given the 18+ Non-householder Rate.

PERSONS AGED 80 OR OVER
Addition to scale rate for persons over 80 ..... 25p

Board and Lodging

	Short Term	Long Term
PERSONAL EXPENSES		
Couple	£14.20	£15.70
Single Person	£7.10	£7.85
CHILDREN		
Aged under 11 £2.40	aged 11-15	£3.60
	16-17	£4.25
	18+	£7.10

EATING OUT ALLOWANCES
Breakfast 80p
Lunch/evening meal ..... £1.10 each

This table shows the new rates of benefit.

Additions

FOR HEATING

Health/accommodation	Central Heating
£1.40	up to 4 rooms ... £1.40
£3.40	5 + rooms ... £2.80

Age (under 5, over 70) £1.40

FOR SPECIAL DIET
Lower rate £1.20
Higher rate £2.80
On dialysis £8.00

FOR THE BLIND £1.25

Earnings Rules

Single parent .. first £4, plus half between £4–£20
Pensioner ..... £4 pw. NET
Unemployed person ..... £4 pw. NET
Wife of person claiming ..... £4 pw. NET

EXPENSES connected with work allowed in addition.

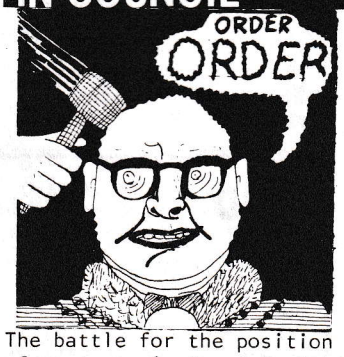
Deductions from Scale Rate

WHEN RENT COVERS:

Heating	£4.35	Deductions apply to householders only.
Cooking	50p	
Lighting	35p	
Hot water	50p	

WHEN BENEFIT SUSPENDED:
Single householder £8.50
Married householder £8.50
Non-householder over 18 ..... £6.80
Non-householder aged 16-17 ..... £5.20

IN COUNCIL



The battle for the position of next year's Mayor is hotting up, following EYE's sensational revelations last month. Clearly in the lead CLLR. GEORGE NEWTON may be wondering why some fellow Councillors are so keen to see him get the post.

Could it be that they DON'T want him to get Chairmanship of Finance and Personnel Committee - and that when they got him out of the way as Mayor, the Personnel Dept. can finally be dispersed to other parts of the council's bureaucracy, as promised at the last election?

An equally interesting leadership battle is brewing over the position of Deputy to leader ROY OLDHAM. Favourite at present is CLLR.GLYN FORD but undoubtedly PERCY TRAVIS will be put up by the 'old guard who are still unconvinced that the new corporate methods of running the Borough are any better than their old-fashioned ones.

PETER JEPSON, ASTMS member and election agent for Droylsden Labour Party in the coming Greater Manchester Council elections is in trouble with the NGA - the print union. PETER has bought a second hand offset printing machine for £100 with the intention of cutting party costs.

The NGA have written a strong complaint, pointing out that in such depressed times as these, surely the Labour Party should support fellow workers? It seems, however, that the machine has solved the problem - it's now in bits in someone's garage.

No doubt working at top speed for an area of need, Tameside Youth and Community Dept. have finally got approval to appoint a new full-time worker at MILLBROOK COMMUNITY CENTRE a mere seven months after the previous worker said he was leaving.

CLLR . SYLVIA SWIFFIN, Newtons answer to SHIRLEY WILLIAMS, is not pleased-again! Proposals are afoot in the Education Dept. to get more science teachers for girls - and that trendy lefty CLLR. GLYN FORD, Education Chairman, has proposed advertising the posts in a national feminist magazine, SPARE RIB. Apparently SYLVIA prefers the more traditional - and less radical- approach of placing ads in 'proper' newspapers.

Education Chiefs backed by certain Head Teachers are wanting to put school meals up by 5pence in Sept. A counter blast has come from NUPE's Stamford St. bunker, written by full-time organiser MIKE RAWCLIFFE, claiming that there will be a drastic reduction in the number of kids eating school meals if the price goes up. The next Education Committee promises to be interesting.

Mr. MCGRAW, the HYDE Communist who appeared in last issue's "WRETCH" column, would like to point out that FRANK DAWBER, the local Nazional Front leader, did not serve with him on a GEE CROSS residents group a year or two ago.

PARLIAMENT

All three of our MP's have been in evidence in the House recently. Ken Marks asked D.E.S. Spokesperson Linda Chalker what her Dept. intended to do about kids who leave school before the Easter exam season to qualify for Supplementary Benefit.

Then, on the global front, asked Maggie herself if she and new U.S. President,the Late JOHN WAYNE would consider disarmament proposals for next years U.N. Conference.

Narrowing his horizons, Ken also asked her if she had any plans to visit GORTON. Thankfully she said no.

TOM PENDRY asked for figures on Tameside firms receiving Regional Development Grants in 78,79 and 80.

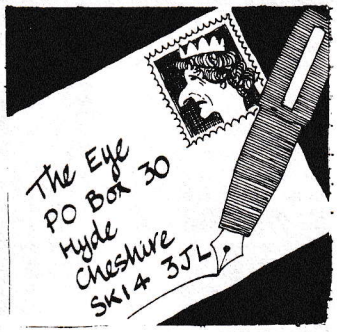
Answer as follows:-

78;9 firms got £1,162,000
79;13 firms got £769,000
80;8 firms got £175,000

Then, this being the age of the train, TOM enquired about the cost of maintaining Trans-Pennine rail routes from '73-80.

Finally came a cryptic enquiry from BOB SHELDON about the number of gun licences issued in the last 10 months.

LETTERS



** INDICATES THAT LETTERS HAVE BEEN CUT FOR REASONS OF SPACE.*

REDUNDANCY

Dear Sir,

The information you have given about redundancy on Page 9 of the March '81 issue is incorrect.
The Dept. of Employment produces some excellent and clearly laid out booklets on redundancy pay and the redundancy scheme.
They also publish reasonably clear pamphlets on unfair dismissal. In your column headed 'money' you seem to be confusing redundancy pay with the compensatory element of an award for unfair dismissal.
*
The cheapest method of getting rid of an employee is to make him redundant. It has been known for employers to engineer a redundancy rather than to take the risk of sacking someone and him/her to take the employer to Court and attempt to gain an award for unfair dismissal.
The very brief mention you make of tax is in my view worse than useless as advice. It touches on a most complicated topic which would need an accountant to explain in proper detail.
You ought also to point out in my opinion, that the chances of someone obtaining in excess of £10,000.00 compensation are highly unlikely and that most awards are less than £1,000.00
Yours sincerely,
JACK THORNLEY, Solicitor
214 Stamford St. AUL.

EYE REPLY: THE NCCL BOOKLET "YOUR RIGHTS AT WORK" P.28 & 32 STATES THAT REDUNDANCY PAY IS WORKED OUT IN THE SAME WAY AS UNFAIR DISMISSAL COMPENSATION. AND REDUNDANCY PAYMENTS CAN BE QUITE HIGH - E.G. ICL LOCALLY, BSC NATIONALLY. AS FOR THE TAX PROBLEM - AGAIN OUR SOURCE WAS THE NCCL BOOKLET. □

CRAP

To The Editor,

I would just like to voice my opinion about your paper if that is what you can truthfully call it. Personaly (sic) I would call it a load of crap! And as for the people who write to you they are as bad as you.
As far as I can see you are pulling apart and no doubt causing a lot of embarassment to people who have probably worked all their lives to build up buisnesses (sic) and provide jobs for the people in this area.
Alright, maybe there are not a lot of jobs at the moment and maybe they are making people redundant just so that they can stay open but you won't be complaining after the recession when they are working again.
And God knows, Tameside would be in a bloody worse mess if they weren't here no matter how few jobs they supply.
*
The sooner they bring out the law stopping idiots like you from getting hold of facts and figures about buisnesses (sic) the better.
And how you have the right to print everybody's address as I'll never know.
*
The sooner we get your paper off the streets the better and dont worry we shall have a damn good try.

EYE REPLY: THIS LETTER WAS ANONYMOUS. BUT WOULD ALL OUR SANE CORRESPONDENTS PLEASE SUPPLY THEIR NAMES AND ADDRESS WHICH WE WILL WITH HOLD ON REQUEST. □

COMMUNIST

Dear Editor,

Your March issue contained comments which revealed a deplorable ignorance of Communist Party policy in the GMC Elections.
In general, we consider that the present GMC set-up is undemocratic and that much of its power should be passed to local district councils.
Specifically, we are for the immediate implementation of a low-fare policy by GMT
*
We want a crash programme of aid to the area's industry in order to attack the problems of unemployment.
We advocate democratic control of the police with full Union rights together with positive police action to stop racialist attacks and attacks on women and elderly people.
We oppose Tory Govt. expenditure on nuclear arms. Unilateral disarmament would release billions of pounds for our hospitals, social services, education and housing needs. Our opposition to membership of the EEC which has had serious local effects, is well known.
We believe that Communist Councillors pledged to fight for these policies would find support amongst left wing labour members of the G.M.C.
This does not mean that we would normally expect so called 'moderates' to support us or even give us an easy time, as your comments might imply. We are, however, in favour of joint activity with all who are prepared to work with us on an agreed programme to defeat the Tories at both local and national level.
Yours fraternally,

Frank Cropper - Secretary
Tameside Communist Party
11 Manor Farm Close, AUL □

WHAT'S UP DOC?

Dear Sir,

I read with interest your recent publication and I admire your courage in what I think may be fairly described as extreme leftwing investigative journalism.
I admire your courage, as being a Doctor I have in the past seen the way in which certain members of our community take into their hands their own means of redress (not legal) as a result of your journalistic efforts. It would seem a great pity as if in the past it has been rumoured that the only monumemt to your activities would be in a concrete pillar on some new motorway. I admire the vigour with which you attack various members of society, however I would respect your publication and your staff even more if they were to make public by printing the profit and loss accounts of either your own or subsidiary company this would then be a witness to the people who read your publication that you yourselves are not making any unreasonable financial gain from your publication.
*
Whether or not you publish this letter will be proof in itself in my mind as to the sincerity of yourself and your publication.
Yours faithfully,
DR. W.D. Ashworth
Manse Cott. Matley Lane,
Stalybridge.

EYE REPLY: TAMESIDE EYE IS NON PROFIT MAKING. OUT OF THE 15p COVER PRICE, 5p GOES TO THE NEWSAGENT, 8p TO THE PRINTERS AND 2p FOR PRODUCTION COSTS. ALL WORK ON TAMESIDE EYE IS UNPAID. - OK DOC ? □

LOUD

Dear Editor,

First may I say how much I believe your paper has improved over the past year or so and I happily enclose the appropriate cheque for an annual subscription.
Having written that, and in no spirit of churlishness I must say that if you are to have a Parliamentary Report section-and why not- it might be wise if your correspondent actually found out about some of the complexities of the House of Commons and the recording of speeches made therein.
In the last edition I, together with my colleagues, was dubbed as a 'quiet man' in Parliament. Ken and Bob can, of course, refute that themselves if they wish but for my part-and in a spirit of comradeship and co-operation- I would like to give you the computer print out of my activities in the

continued on p11

LETTERS CONT. FROM P. 10

Chamber just before the Christmas recess and in the period just after which your correspondent chose-I enclose the appropriate Hansards

I have spoken in debates from the Opposition Front Bench on Housing, Fisheries, Agriculture and the Northern Ireland Economy. Most of my questions -of which there have been no fewer than 31- have however been directly related to the problems within my consitiuency. Finally may I point out that in any major debate the number of MP's wishing to speak and those who 'catch the Speaker's eye' seldom equate.

Yours fraternally,
TOM PENDRY
House of Commons.

PROFILE

PET OF THE MONTH FROM P.3

solicitors - RUPERT WOOD & SON was established by MICHAEL JOHNS grandfather RUPERT in 1911. RUPERT was a grand officer in the ASHTON FREEMASONS and president of the ASHTON GOLF CLUB from 1956 to 1968. RUPERTs wife was lady captain in 1932.

RUPERT founded the ASHTON STAMFORD BUILDING SOCIETY in 1945.

ASHTON STAMFORD now has assets worth well over £1,000,000. Nowadays MICHAEL WOODS Auntie Kathleen the Tameside Magistrate is on the board.

So is ERIC ROTHWELL Staly bridge auctioneer, bailiff and furniture dealer.

The Societies principle executive is J.P. STANSFIELD a former director of J ANDREW AND CO. the company that owned the REPORTER GROUP of newspapers until last year.

MICHAEL JOHN is now a partner with his dad RUPERT DEAN WOOD in the family solicitors. But, he's developed his own links with the Tameside business establishment.

In particular with the DEREK HARTLE-PHILIP DAWSON set of conservative property dealers and entrepreneurs.

In 1980 MICHAEL JOHN was company secretary of HADOVER LTD. the property co. owned by another JP FRANCES PAUL HIGTON a close associate of PHILIP DAWSON the estate agent. He's also served with FRANK HIGTON on DEREK HARTLE SERVICES LTD. the mottram millionaires management co.

When HARTLE's firm HARTLE MACHINERY INTERNATIONAL went bust in 1978 MICHAEL JOHN owned 5,000 shares in it.

During his time as captain of the ASHTON GOLF CLUB, MICHAEL JOHN WOOD may well have dealings with the clubs landlords LORD DEREMORES ESTATE. LORD DEREMORE, represented by CORDINGLEYS in Ashton, have been trying for years to build private houses on land used by the golf club, but keep getting turned down by Tameside Planning Committee. □

GRASS ROOTS

No.1. in the City for, Astrology: Occult: Rock Music: U/G Comix: Gardening: Alternative Life - styles: Sexual Politics.

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Hallo Readers!

My good friend HOWARD DE CARLE who before he changed his name was known as plain old HOWARD WILKINSON of STALYBRIDGE tennis club fame, is having trouble with MOTTRAM village residents over his scheme to turn Crown Pole House into a high class restaurant. What worries me is HOWARD'S proposed menu; Lancashire hotpot and pickled cabbage at £2.30 per head? And Paté Longdendale?

Uncle Ben

ELLO READERS! FRED MAGGOT 'ERE, MAYOR OF LAMESIDE! 'ERE ARE SOME SNAPS OF ME AN' GLADYS THE WIFE ON OUR FREE MUNICIPAL TRIP TO MERDE-SUR-L'HERBE, LAMESIDE'S TWIN TOWN IN FROGGY LAND TO VISIT THE SEWAGE WORKS.
GEROFF! YOU BIG SOFT LAD!
BONJOUR
MADAMOISELLE de MERDE SUR L'HERBE
HIC!
ME AFTER GLADYS FOUND US.
GLADYS ON THE BEACH
FACE BLEU
THANKS FOR PAYING FOR US READERS! ME AND GLADYS ENJOYED IT SO MUCH WE'RE GOING BACK NEXT YEAR!
ZUT ALORS!
THIS IS PIERRE, MAYOR OF MERDE SUR L'HERBE AND ME AT THE AIRPORT
ME AND PIERRE AFTER THE CIVIC RECEPTION
ME AND FIFI THE CHAMBERMAID

ASHTON SWEET MART

indian grocer

SWEETS AND SAVOURIES, TROPICAL VEGETABLES/FRUIT, DRIED FRUITS, RICE/PULSES, PITTA (NAN) BREAD, NUTS, POPPADUMS, CURRY PASTES/POWDER. HERBS/SPICES ETC. QUALITY AND FRIENDLY SERVICE.

24/26 COTTON STREET EAST,
(BY TAMESIDE THEATRE),
ASHTON UNDER LYNE.

PHONE:339 4744.

FIGHT BACK AGAINST THE TORIES - JOIN THE LABOUR PARTY NOW!

LABOUR PARTY

For further information contact:
Mike Custance on 339 2179 OR
Write to the Secretary of Tameside Labour Party
116 Margaret House, Ashton Under Lyne.

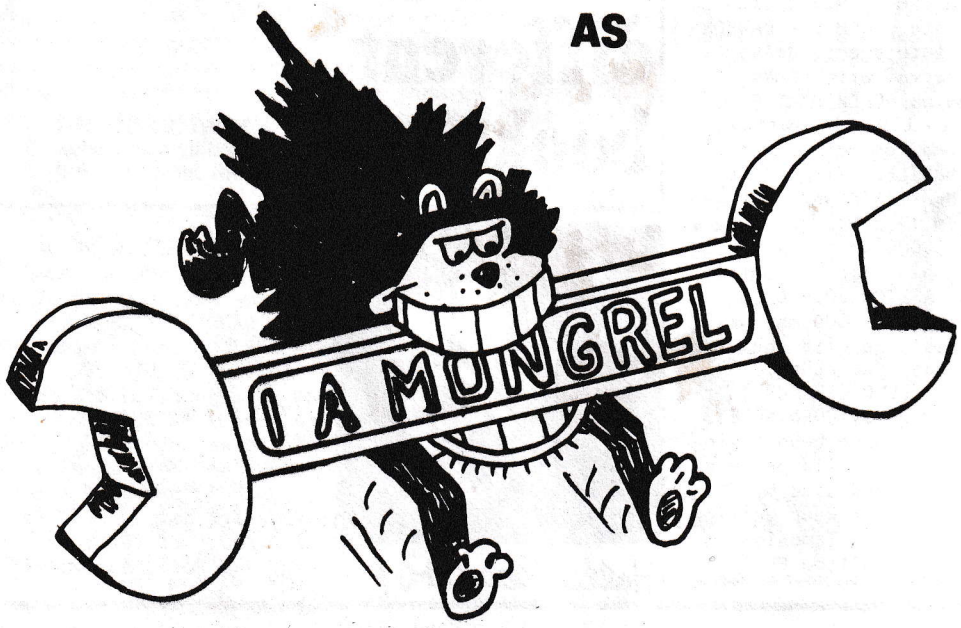
* * * * *

MARCH AND RALLY AGAINST UNEMPLOYMENT ON SATURDAY MARCH 28th: 1.30 pm DUKINFIELD TOWN HALL.

NORTH WEST SPANNER

UNLEASH ERNIE DALTON

AS



AN AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL ONE MAN SHOW

DOGS OF THE WORLD UNITE! WE'VE NOTHING TO LOSE BUT OUR CHAINS

Wed.18.Mar.2pm.M/cr.Poly,Aytoun St. Manchester.

Fri.20.Mar.8pm. Hattersley Comm. Centre, Hyde, Cheshire.

Sat.21.Mar.7.45pm.Clarence Hotel corner of Bolton St.& Silver St. Bury.

Sat.28.Mar.9pm The Globe, High St. West. Glossop.

Mon.30.Mar.8pm Everyman Bistro Hope Street, Liverpool.

For Further details phone Lynn Moss on Mossley 4627 or 4631.

TAMESIDE EYE

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